[English]

Zuari Bridge in Goa

1320. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) when the Zuari bridge was built in Goa;

(b) the amount provided by the Union Government for the construction of this bridge, the amount out of that returned by the State Government and the amount yet to be recovered;

(c) whether the State Government stopped the collection of toll tax at the said bridge; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and how the Government propose to recover remaining amount from the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 719.4 Lakhs was sanctioned by the Government of India for the construction of Zuari bridge which was opened to traffic with effect from 14.4.83. An amount of Rs. 4,82,32,719/- was collected as toll tax for the period from 19.9.83 to 31.12.96. The balance amount is yet to be recovered.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The collection of toll was stopped with effect from the Ist Jan., 1997 as per the instructions of the Government of Goa. The State Government has since been advised to resume the collection of toll in accordance with the provisions of National Highways Act, 1956.

Purchase of Russian Ship

1321. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in 'The Hindustan Times dated February 4, 1997 under the caption "India making efforts to buy Russian ship"; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to acquire the ships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N SOMU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for purchase of an aircraft carrier as a replacement for INS Vikrant which was decommissioned on 31st January, 1997.

Historic Documents of Netaji

1322. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the materials and manuscripts pertaining to the personal life of immortal worthy son of India, Subhash Chandra Bose (Netaji), who had shaken the very existence of the British Empire with his revolutionary thoughts and unique organising capacity, have been neglected;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to preserve these documents?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. National Archives of India has been acquiring papers from various sources viz. private individuals, agencies, government organisations and from foreign repositories in microfilm form on the subject. NAI has acquired papers in original/copies of letters, albums, newspapers 'Azad Hind' and 'Voices of India', cassettes of recorded speeches of Netaji from Mrs. Pratima Sen Gupta (Calcutta), Shri Jay Singh (Hissar), Shri R. Krishnan Nair (Attingal) Tata Iron and Steel (Jamshedpur). All India Congress Committee (New Delhi), Ministry of External Affairs and Department of Education. NAI has also acquired papers relating to Netaji from Oriental Institute, Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Fragile Art Object

1323. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have banned sending of rare and fragile art objects out of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether a committee has been formed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the composition of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (d) As a policy, Government do not allow sending of rare and fragile art objects out of the country. However, for considering proposals for sending abroad exhibitions of art objects, including rare and fragile ones, the Government of India in the Department of Culture, have set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Culture). The present composition of the Committee is :-

Secretary (Culture)	Chairman
Two Joint Secretaries of the Department of Culture	
Joint Secretary concerned in the Ministry of External Affairs	
Director General, National Museum	
Director General, Indian Council of Cultural Relations	
Director General, Archaeological Survey of India	

On the basis of decisions taken by the Committee, the art objects, which are to be sent abroad in the form of exhibitions, are screened and evaluated by a National Screening and Evaluation Committee. Compositor of the committee is attached as statement. This Committee

examines the art objects, piece by piece and clears the objects for sending abroad as per the guidelines framed by the Government of India. However, the final decision regarding sending of art objects abroad rests with the Government of India.

Statement

Composition of the National Screening and Evaluation Committee constituted for screening and evaluation of the art objects to be sent abroad for exhibitions:

1.	Dr. M.C. Joshi, Ex- Director General, Archaeological Survey of India	Chairman
2.	Director General, Archaeological Survey of India New Delhi.	Member (Ex-Officio)
3.	Director General, National Museum, New Delhi	Member (Ex-Officio)
4.	Director, Prince of Wales Museums of Western India, Mumbai	Member (Ex-Officio)
5.	Director, Government Museum Egmore, Madras	Member (Ex-Officio)
*6.	Representative of Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi	Member (Ex-Officio)
*7.	Representative of Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi	Member (Ex-Officio)
*8.	Representative of Department of Revenue, New Delhi	Member (Ex-Officio)
9.	Director, Antiquities, Archaeological Survey of India New Delhi.	Member (Ex-Officio)

* (6), (7) and (8) above would be associated in connection with the Selection of Gems & Jewellery

Action Plan for India's Independence

1324. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in 'The Hindustan Times' New Delhi dated January 28, 1997 regarding the delay in the implementation of the action plan to celebrate 50 years of India's Independence;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the contribution of each Ministry/Department assigned with the task of making the celebration a memorable event and the progress so far made in this regard;

(d) the amount earmarked and spent so far; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose tc complete the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) With a view to plan and organise the celebrations of India's 50 years of Independence the Govt. of India have already set up three committees i.e. a National Committee, a Cabinet Committee and an Implementation Committee.

The Prime Minister has also written to all Cabinet Ministers and Ministers of State with independent charge tc formulate plans and programmes which are unique anc befitting the significance of the occasion. Minister of Human Resource Development, Chairman of Implementation Committee has also written to Chief Ministers of States and to Governors/Lt.Governors of UTs requesting them to set up State/UT level Committees to plan and organise the celebrations.

A Secretariat to service the three Committees as also to monitor and co-ordinate various activities regarding celebrations is in the process of being set up.

An advertisement has since been released through DAVP inviting views and suggestions of the general public keeping in view the fact that people of India should decide how they want to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence.

The implementation Committee which is basically responsible for evolving events and programmes etc. for commemoration, had its first meeting on 6th November, 1996. The Implementation Committee has been reconstituted and is going to meet on 5th March, 1997

Since the Implementation Committee would be considering a wide spectrum of proposals received on various themes and from various independent organisations, they will be examined by subject experts, professionals and persons with experience in relevant fields. Advisory goups on various themes are also being set up consisting of eminent persons to give their suggestions to the Implementation Committee. The Advisory Group on ceremonial events has met on Ist March, 1997. Similar meetings of other Advisory Groups are being held for eliciting their suggestions with the sole aim to make the event a success.

A total of Rs. 51 crores have been sanctioned out of which 20 crores are for National Celebrations, 25 crores for State Governments and 6 crores for other expenditure.

Total Literacy Campaign

1325. SHRI K. PRADHANI :Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Total Literacy Campaign has been launched in the scheduled districts also;

(b) if so, the coverage made in the Scheduled Areas in different States;